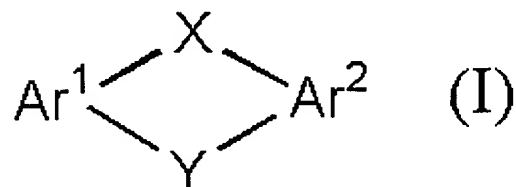


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A polybutadiene composition comprising a polymer having a butadiene unit as a polymerization ~~un- it~~ unit and a compound represented by the following formula (I):



wherein Ar¹ and Ar² each independently represent ~~a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic ring~~ an aromatic ring or an aromatic ring substituted with at least one substituent group selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkoxy, acyloxy, hydroxy groups, a halogen atom, a sulfo group and a carboxyl group, X and Y each independently represent an alkylene group having one or two carbon atoms, or an oxygen atom.

2. (Previously Presented) The polybutadiene composition according to claim 1 wherein the polymer having a butadiene unit as a polymerization unit is a polymer selected from polybutadiene, styrene-butadiene copolymers, acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymers, acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene copolymers, styrene-butadiene block copolymers and impact resistant polystyrenes.

3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The polybutadiene composition according to claim 1 wherein content of the compound represented by the formula (I) is 0.01 part by weight or more based on 100 parts by weight of the polybutadiene composition.

6-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, wherein Ar^1 and Ar^2 each independently represent an aromatic ring or an aromatic ring substituted with at least one substituent group selected from the group consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, ~~aralkyl~~, alkoxy, acyloxy, hydroxy groups, a halogen atom, a sulfo group and a carboxyl group ~~sulfonyl~~, and ~~carbonyl groups~~.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (New) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, wherein Ar^1 and Ar^2 each independently represent an aromatic ring or an aromatic ring substituted with at least one substituent group selected from the group consisting of an C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{5-8} cycloalkyl, C_{6-20} aryl, C_{7-20} aralkyl, C_{1-18} alkoxy, C_{1-18} acyloxy, hydroxy groups, a halogen atom, a sulfo group and a carboxyl group.

12. (New) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1, wherein Ar¹ and Ar² each independently represent an aromatic ring or an aromatic ring substituted with at least one substituent group selected from the group consisting of an C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₅₋₈ cycloalkyl, C₆₋₂₀ aryl, C₁₋₁₈ alkoxy, C₁₋₁₈ acyloxy, hydroxy groups, a halogen atom, a sulfo group and a carboxyl group.

13. (New) A polybutadiene composition according to claim 1 or 11, wherein Ar¹ and Ar² are benzene rings.

14. (New) A composition according to claim 1, wherein X represents an alkylene group having one or two carbon atoms, and Y represents an oxygen atom.